

shown that I was ready to Intervene by force of
army if
necessary, the necessity will be for the present
avoided; but
I am greatly disheartened at what has
occurred and doubt
very much whether in the end we shall not
have to exercise
a more immediate control over Cuba, and of
course it is
possible that we shall be unable to make a
working scheme
even now, and that we shall have to take
possession of
the island temporarily this fall. But I shall
do all that I
can to avoid this and I hope to be
successful"

An incident which excited wide public
interest and much.
partisan rancor at the time occurred also in
August, 1906,
This was the attack by a body of colored
troops of the
regular army upon the city of Brownsville in
Texas. The
troops were stationed at Fort Brown, close
beside the city,
and considerable hostility had developed
between them and
the citizens. Near midnight on August 13, a
body of colored
soldiers, numbering from nine to fifteen
or twenty
according to varying estimates, scaled the
walls of the fort
and went through the town, shooting
whomsoever they saw
moving and -firing into houses wherever they
saw lights*
They fired upon and hit in the arm the
lieutenant of police
who approached them, fired also at two
policemen, killed
one man in a saloon and wounded another, and
came very
near to killing several women and children.
Investigation
showed that the bullets and shells found on
the ground
were from government rifles and that

bullet-holes in, the houses were made by such bullets. There were no bullet-holes in the structure of the fort, showing that there had been no attack upon it. The commander of the fort testified that he was convinced that the raiders had slipped out of their quarters, got possession of their rifles, shot up the town and returned to the barracks without being discovered. All efforts to extort confessions from the suspected soldiers, or to get their associates to give evidence against them failed.

After full investigation of the facts, the President ordered the discharge of nearly all the members of three